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Robert  
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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takahiro ONIZUKA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2635

Application No.: 09/812,555

Examiner: B. Chervinsky

Filed: March 21, 2001

Docket No.: 108980

For: POWER DISTRIBUTOR FOR A VEHICLE AND PRODUCTION METHOD  
THEREOF

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUL 11 2003

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In reply to the June 12, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-20, 25-43, 45 and 46, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-46 sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present

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application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:HNS/tbh

Date: July 10, 2003

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